

# BIOGRAPHY



State Senator

## VALDE GARCIA

Serving the 22<sup>nd</sup> District

Shiawassee-Livingston-southern Ingham counties

### CONTACT INFORMATION

**ADDRESS:**

P.O. Box 30036  
Lansing, MI  
48909-7536

**TELEPHONE:**

(517) 373-2420  
Toll-Free:  
(800) 516-0026

**FAX:**

(517) 373-2764

**WEBSITE**

[www.senate.michigan.gov/garcia](http://www.senate.michigan.gov/garcia)

Elected as the first Hispanic Senator in Michigan's history, Valde Garcia has the pleasure of representing the 22<sup>nd</sup> District which comprises Livingston, Shiawassee, and the southern portion of Ingham counties. 2006 represents Senator Garcia's fifth year serving as a state senator and his 7<sup>th</sup> year working as a legislator. Before being elected in to the 22<sup>nd</sup> District, Valde Garcia represented mid-Michigan in the House of Representatives.

Currently, the Senator has the distinction of serving on the Senate Appropriations committee and chairs two subcommittees; Commerce, Labor and Economic Development, as well as General Government. He also serves on the Community Health and Judiciary/Corrections subcommittees and is the vice chair of the Senate Finance committee.

Valde Garcia grew up in Clinton County, Michigan. He is the son of migrant workers who instilled in him the value of what it means to be a citizen of the United States. The lessons he learned from watching his parents struggle to raise a large family while harvesting crops provided him with the inspiration to become who he is today. From that experience, Valde learned what it really means to enjoy the freedoms we share as American citizens. This understanding ignited his desire to become a public official and help others benefit from and appreciate all that United States and the State of Michigan have to offer.

To aid his mission, Valde Garcia earned a Bachelor's degree in Political Science and History from Cedarville University, Cedarville, Ohio. Upon graduating from college, he was commissioned as an Army officer in the United States armed forces. He served for nine years on active duty before going on to serve an additional nine years in the United States Army Reserve. It was during this period of time that he was recalled to active duty to serve in support of Operation Desert Storm at Fort Benning, GA. To date, the Senator has served for over 24 years in the military, now ranked as a Colonel.

The Senator's road to success included working as a legislative aid and chief of staff for several state senators. He was also a teacher and business representative before joining the legislature in 1999. In addition to his extensive legislative responsibilities, the Senator serves on the Selection Committee for the White House Fellows commission, a position in which he was appointed to by President George W. Bush, is a board member for both the Federal Home Loan Bank Board and the National Association of Latino Elected Officials, and serves as an honorary board member for the Congressional Youth Leadership Council.

Senator Garcia resides in Livingston County.

For a downloadable photo of Senator Garcia, please visit  
[www.senate.michigan.gov/garcia](http://www.senate.michigan.gov/garcia)